

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A signal processing apparatus, comprising:

~~means for generating~~ a generator configured to generate a luminance signal of an input video signal;

~~means for extracting~~ an extractor configured to extract a high frequency signal from said input video signal, and including a bandpass filter connected to a coring circuit configured to output said high frequency signal;

~~mask generating means for generating~~ a mask generator configured to generate a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, and including an absolute value calculator, a low pass filter, a threshold processor, and a mask processor configured to output said mask, the low pass filter configured to output a low passed signal;

~~a gain factor generating means for generating~~ generator configured to generate a gain factor ~~on the basis of~~ based on said mask and said low passed signal;

~~a contour correction signal generating means for generating~~ generator configured to generate a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal ~~with~~ by said gain factor; and

~~correcting means for correcting~~ a luminance corrector configured to correct said luminance signal ~~on the basis of~~ based on said contour correction signal.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

~~said mask generating means generates~~ generator is configured to generate said mask by repeating an arbitrary number of times dilation processing or erosion processing for said high frequency signal.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

~~detecting means for detecting~~a detector configured to detect either or both of an edge component and chroma component from said input video signal, wherein:

said gain factor ~~generating means generates~~generator is configured to control an ~~said gain factor that is based on said mask and controls the~~ enhanced amount of either or both of said edge component and said chroma component.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A signal processing method, comprising the steps of:

generating a luminance signal of an input video signal;

extracting a high frequency signal from said input video signal, including bandpass filtering and coring the input video signal, and outputting said high frequency signal;

generating a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, including calculating an absolute value of the high frequency signal, low pass filtering the absolute value, processing a threshold of the low pass filtered absolute value, and outputting said mask;

generating a gain factor ~~on the basis of~~based on said mask and said low passed filtered absolute value;

generating a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and

correcting said luminance signal ~~on the basis of~~based on said contour correction signal.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A ~~record~~computer readable storage medium storing a computer readable program that ~~executes signal processing, said computer readable program comprising the steps of~~configured to cause a processor-based device to execute a method, comprising:

generating a luminance signal of an input video signal;

extracting a high frequency signal from said input video signal, including bandpass filtering and coring the input video signal, and outputting said high frequency signal;

generating a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, including calculating an absolute value of the high frequency signal, low pass filtering the absolute value, processing a threshold of the low pass filtered absolute value, and outputting said mask;

generating a gain factor based on said mask and said low pass filtered absolute value;

generating a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and

correcting said luminance signal based on said contour correction signal.

~~generating a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in a high frequency signal extracted from an input video signal;~~

~~generating a gain factor on the basis of said mask;~~

~~generating a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and~~

~~correcting a luminance signal of said input video signal on the basis of said contour correction signal.~~

Claim 6 (Canceled).